

GAS FIGHT WON; BROOKLYN RELIEF UP TO WHITMAN

Assembly Passes Gasoline Rate Bill Without a Dissenting Vote.

END OF A YEAR BATTLE.

Legislature, Through Measure Urged by Evening World, Lifts Unjust Burden.

By Sophie Irene Loeb.

One of the most fought measures in the Legislature this year was the eighteen-cent gas bill, which, once passed by the Evening World, passed the Assembly unanimously in Albany yesterday. The Governor has said he will sign it.

Every effort was made to block the bill in the closing weeks of the Legislature and it was not until after a midnight session of the Rules Committee on Monday that the two bills of the Assembly and Senate were both presented for passage.

The bill marks a signal victory in the long fight carried on by The Evening World to obtain a uniform gas rate for the Borough of Brooklyn, after having, in 1906, championed the eighty-cent gas bill for Manhattan. The success was most marked because of the overwhelming lobby against the measure of corporation lawyers and politicians which made itself felt in an effort to confuse the Joseph Bill with the Senate Bill in a mix up of technicalities.

It is also most significant that not since the Public Service Commission was first appointed has it been possible to pass a mandatory rate bill of this nature. The Legislature has been solid against legislation that came under the jurisdiction of the Commission.

But the failure of all efforts of the people of Brooklyn to secure an eighty-cent gas rate from the Public Service Commission for six years was so apparent as to amount to a public scandal.

The Legislature recognized this, since there were only three dissenting votes in both houses, and these registered only on the grounds of standing by the principle of not interfering with public service board's rate making powers.

SPECIAL FIGHT MADE TO ELIMINATE ONE COMPANY.

There was a division of opinion in the Rules Committee, where a strong attempt was made to amend the bill and eliminate the Brooklyn Borough Gas Company from furnishing 80-cent gas.

Speaker Sweet, who had obtained assurance from the Public Service Commission that an 80-cent rate would not be confiscatory, held his ground, maintaining that the people

AUTHOR'S WIDOW WHO WILL LOSE \$250,000 ESTATE IF SHE REWEDS



MRS. RICHARD H. DAVIS

By the will of Richard Harding Davis, novelist and war correspondent, who died at his country place at Mount Kisco on April 11, most of his estate, estimated at about \$250,000, is placed in the hands of a trustee for the benefit of his widow, Mrs. Elizabeth Genevieve Davis, and their daughter.

The will was filed with Surrogate Sawyer in White Plains yesterday. It was signed March 13, 1915. In its opening paragraph it directs the testator's cremation and then orders that his personal effects be divided among his widow, his sister, Mrs. Nora Davis Parrar of Tuxedo, B. C., and his brother, Charles Belmont Davis. The testator, however, shall respect the

choice of Mrs. Davis as to her share of these.

The remainder of the estate is to be held in trust, the income going to the widow until her daughter is twenty-one years old; then one-half of the income shall go to the daughter and the remainder to Mrs. Davis "as long as she remains my widow."

In the case of the death or remarriage of Mrs. Davis before the daughter is twenty-one, all the income of the trust fund shall be paid to Hope until she comes of age. Then she is to get one-half the principal, the balance to remain in trust for her for life.

The Franklin Trust Company of Brooklyn is made executor and trustee.

of Brooklyn were entitled to the relief asked.

At a crucial time in the consideration of the bill the Brooklyn members went in a body to the Speaker and demanded to know who was responsible for holding up the bills. This delegation was led by Charles Joseph, who fathered the bill in the Assembly, and included Assemblymen August C. Flannigan, George R. Brennan, Fred Ahern, R. Hunter McQuiston, William T. Simpson, Fred G. Mullan, Marc Goldberg, Frederick H. Maerkle and Frederick A. Wells, and also Senator Burlingham.

Speaker Alfred Smith of New York County, who was present in Albany, became interested in the measure and helped to secure its final passage.

Every effort was made to exempt the Brooklyn Borough company, which operates in the Thirty-first Ward, as against the Kings County Lighting Company, operating in the adjoining ward, the Thirtieth.

Both companies now charge 85 cents. Significant statistics and facts were given to the committee, and it was clearly established that in adjoining wards where 80 cents is now charged, the population is several thousand less than in either of these two sections.

It was also shown that the Brooklyn Borough Gas Company pays a lower rate for oil, which is a large element of expense in the making of gas, than any other company in Greater New York.

Besides, this concern has been capitalized for a larger amount than the real value of their property. With these facts before the Rules Committee, the Brooklyn delegation, both Republicans and Democrats, threatened a united revolt unless the measure was brought out on the floor.

The Brooklyn delegation had speeches prepared in behalf of the consumers. Speaker Sweet insisted that both bills be placed on the calendar, so there would be ample assurance of the passage of one. Assemblyman Joseph then moved for substitution and a consideration of the Senate bill, which was identical with his, for final action.

Speaker Sweet called for the last reading of the bill and it passed without a single objection.

The Brooklyn delegation had the bill passed in behalf of the consumers in case an amendment was made to allow a reduction in the 85-cent rate.

Another Measure Gives to Governor Alone the Right to Call Out Militia.

ALBANY, April 19.—The Assembly by a vote of 87 to 37 passed the Cristman-Wheeler bill this morning providing for a State Board of Motion Picture Censors.

The board is to be under the direction of the State Board of Regents.

The Assembly also passed the bill of Assemblyman Lynch giving the Governor alone the right to call out the militia.

WOODS TO BE EAST SIDE'S GUEST.

Representatives of the business men of the lower east side met yesterday at the invitation of Chief Justice A. J. Levy, at the Second District Municipal Court, on Madison Street, and arranged to give a dinner for Police Commissioner Woods on April 27, at Clinton Hall, No. 151 Clinton Street.

Many public men have been invited to attend. Over 400 business men will be the hosts.

DEMOCRATS LEAD IN LOUISIANA.

NEW ORLEANS, April 19.—Seventy-four returns from the State election show that Buffum G. Pleasant, the regular Democratic candidate for Governor, was leading John M. Parker, Progressive-Independent Democrat, by about three votes to one. Ferdinand Montour, Democrat, for Lieutenant Governor, was running close to the head of the ticket the rest of which was unopposed.

At the same time the board sent

'POISON PEN' NOTES STIR HIGH SOCIETY IN PHILADELPHIA

Number of Social Leaders Get Malicious Letters, Evidently From a Woman.

ALL VICTIMS WOMEN.

Writer Shows Intimate Knowledge of Affairs of Prominent Families.

PHILADELPHIA, April 19.—Chief Post Office Inspector Cartwright detailed several of his best assistants to probe "poison pen" attacks on a number of prominent society women here.

Garrulous inmates, all in the same handwriting, have been received lately by fashionable Philadelphians residents.

Members of one well-known family have been so annoyed that the services of a leading lawyer were enlisted. A daughter in this family was married in New York some time ago to a well-known young man. Prior to the wedding and following it the letters came regularly, many absurd statements being made regarding the daughter.

A family council was held in a New York hotel and, as a result, a letter was addressed to a woman in this city who was suspected by the family as being the writer of the letters that had arrived almost daily. The woman was warned in this letter that her identity was suspected and that if she did not desist the authorities would be asked to place her under arrest.

For a short time the family received no more letters, but within the past few weeks they have been arriving daily. A representative of this family said last night that one of the members once incurred the enmity of a Philadelphia woman and that they have reason to suspect that she has been writing the notes, which are believed in some instances as being malicious.

At first the different families who received the malicious letters said nothing about them outside their homes. From time to time gossip spread, and as a result there has been a gradual system of conferences among the victims.

A retired officer of the United States military service, who has been consulted by several families in the matter, said last night that he had seen six letters which were received in the last week. He declared that they were all in the same handwriting and undoubtedly penned by an educated woman.

So far as can be learned the writer has sent all her letters to the feminine heads of families, setting forth the most absurd things regarding daughters and husbands.

It is believed that the writer has an intimate knowledge of social and family affairs, her letters indicating plainly that she is aware of certain secrets that ordinarily would not get beyond the ears of those unusually conversant with affairs of fashionable persons.

ON FIRST "BY-BY WITH MAMA," BABY IS KILLED

Auto Crashes Into Them—Her Brother and Boy Injured.

Mrs. Margaret Burke of No. 549 West One Hundred and Twenty-fifth Street was taking her eight-week-old daughter for her first airing in a brand new perambulator last evening. Her brother-in-law, John Melican of No. 540 West One Hundred and Twenty-sixth Street, accompanied her, holding her arm and carrying his two-year-old boy, Thomas.

They were crossing Amsterdam Avenue at One Hundred and Twenty-fifth Street when an automobile crashed into them. The perambulator was torn from the mother's grasp and the infant killed. Mrs. Burke was thrown to the pavement, and the driver, John P. Murphy, of the machine and was thrown further than the woman, who was severely injured. His boy was hurled from his arm. Melican's right elbow was shattered.

The driver, Gerald J. Brady, of No. 8 Neptune Terrace, New Rochelle, had come to assist his victim. He was arrested and held in jail, while John Ringelstein arrived. When the officer asked him why he did not try to be more careful, the driver said, according to Ringelstein:

"Why in hell didn't they keep out of my way?" He was arrested charged with homicide and held without bail for hearing to-day in the Washington Heights Court.

Witnesses to the accident all agreed that Brady did not sound his horn in crossing the street.

FOR NIGHT CIVIL COURT.

HILL PASSES SENATE AND NOW ONT AWAIT SIGNATURE OF MAYOR MITCHELL.

The bill to establish a Civil Night Court for wage cases passed the Senate this morning and now goes to the Mayor for approval. It passed the Assembly unanimously a few days ago, being fathered there by Nathan D. Perlman, Senator Charles Sullivan and Senator James J. O'Dwyer.

The bill was urged because of the majority of cases that come before the Municipal Court are tenant evictions and wage cases involving amounts below \$100.

Last year there were 14,000 wage cases. To save the loss of time by having such cases heard in the court in an effort to regain wages is the principal purpose of the measure.

MISS KATHARINE RALSTON TAYLOR, Daughter of School Head, Weds

Two N. Y. Teachers Are Held as Spy Suspects in South

Louis Goldberger and Frank Pickelsky Charged With Having U. S. Maps.

RATZBURG, Ga., April 19.—Two men were arrested at Ratzburg, Ga., yesterday morning on mere suspicion maps in their possession, today it was learned that they became the latest to fall into the trap of the notorious spy ring.

Two police schools. They arrested over Acting Superintendent's accusations of the New York City detective could identify them.

Louis Goldberger said he was a professor in the Bushwick School in Brooklyn, while Frank Pickelsky claimed to be connected with the Dr. Wilt Clinton High School. The other man gave his name as Mark Markowitz.

The men were arrested on complaint of Agent A. P. Crookshank of the secret service, who asserted they had been following his party, engaged in making military maps, for several days.

Surprise was expressed by Board of Education officials to-day regarding the arrest of Prof. Goldberger and Pickelsky. The former is an instructor in commercial branches at Brooklyn High School in Brooklyn and Prof. Pickelsky teaches mathematics at DeWitt Clinton High School.

This is a holiday week for the public schools here and many of the teachers are out of town. Goldberger and Pickelsky went South on a brief vacation and Board of Education authorities said they expected the two would return at any time.

The wife of Frank Pickelsky sat at her home, No. 123 West One Hundred and Fifteenth Street, to-day that her husband and the two other teachers had left for Savannah by boat last Friday afternoon for an Easter vacation trip. They meant to walk from Savannah to the mountains and they carried compass maps and Government surveys issued to them as members of a trappers' association.

Mr. Pickelsky said he thought the arrest of the three was a good joke on them, which they deserved for spending their vacation away from home.

Afterward a reception was given in the Taylor home, No. 2235 Loring Place.

DAVID ROLAND DAVIS...

Photo by MISHKIN STUDIO.

Becomes Bride of David Roland Davis of Chicago, in Church Ceremony.

Mrs. Katherine Ralston Taylor, daughter of Joseph S. Taylor, District Superintendent of Schools of the Bronx, was married to David Roland Davis of Chicago last evening in Fernand Manor Reformed Church, University Avenue and Kingsbridge Road.

The church was decorated with palms and marigolds. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. Dr. Price.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, wore a white satin and lace gown with a veil of duckie lace and carried white orchids and lilies of the valley. Miss Katherine Terhune of Harkness, the maid of honor, wore blue satin and carried a nosegay of pink flowers. The bridesmaids, the Misses Dorothy and Gertrude Miller, Edith Linton and Phyllis Hebeley, were in pink frocks with blue sashes. William Davis was his brother, best man, and the ushers were Deems Taylor, Mortimer Heller, Walter Hall and Blaine Webb.

Afterward a reception was given in the Taylor home, No. 2235 Loring Place.

CLAYTON ACT VIOLATION CHARGED TO N. Y. FIRM

Neostyle Company Accused of Attaching License Restrictions to Mimeograph Machines.

WASHINGTON, April 19.—The Federal Trade Commission issued a formal complaint to-day against the A. B. Dick Company of Chicago and the Neostyle Company of New York, an allied concern, manufacturers of mimeograph machines and supplies, charging the companies with violation of the Clayton Act, in attaching license restrictions to mimeograph machines.

HERE'S COMFORT.

Don't worry. Whether we can afford preparedness or not, Washington rates to keep on spending \$25,000 a year on free garden seed.

1,500 NEW EASTER SUITS IN THURSDAY'S SALE

Stephen Murray of Department of Corrections Thwarts Plan to Escape Island Sentence.

Several score of spectators on the Department of Charities pier at the foot of East Twenty-sixth Street to-day, watched two men struggling in the East River. Stephen Murray, forty-two years old, a deckhand, of No. 65 East Sixtieth Street, jumped overboard to rescue John Monahan, twenty-seven years old, who attempted to escape as he was being led on the Blackwell's Island boat.

As Monahan struggled with Murray, both were swept toward mid-stream by the current and for twenty minutes Murray struggled with Monahan and finally managed to reach the dock, where a rope was thrown him. He fastened one end around Monahan, who was drawn ashore unconscious, the pier and taken to Bellevue Hospital. Then Murray was drawn up.

Monahan, who has no home, was

rescued by the New York City Police.

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